

The Wobbly Oscillator

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

October 2018 Volume 48 Number 10



Dinner meeting at Simon's Nominations for Officers

From The Prez

Dinner Meeting

This month's meeting will be one of our popular dinner meetings. It will be held at Simon's in the Brecksville Center shopping plaza at the corner of Brecksville and Chippewa Roads, Routes 21 and 82. The reservations have been made for 6:00 PM for dinner and the business meeting will start at its usual time of 7:30. We would like to emphasize that dinner is optional. Please feel free to come any time after six and enjoy the interaction of fellow members with a beverage, snack or nothing at all. We have mentioned this every time we have a dinner meeting and later hear from members they did not attend the meeting because for whatever reason they did not want to have dinner. Perhaps some felt self-conscious for dietary or budgetary reasons. Please be aware that several members show up at every dinner meeting and don't have dinner or anything else. No problem. The staff at Simon's bent over backwards for us at the last dinner meeting; the food was outstanding and reasonably priced. Please attend.

Elections

October is the month we will nominate officers and Board Members for 2019. The election will be held at the November meeting. We always invite members to nominate new people for officers and Board members. Even more importantly, we encourage participation and enthusiastically accept self-nominations. So if you feel any member or you would be a worthy officer or board member, now is the time to make it happen.

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Cleveland Hamfest

The 2018 Cleveland Hamfest was a big success for CARS. Many of our members attended and quite a few took time to sit behind the CARS tables to help out selling equipment and promoting the club and the upcoming licensing classes. Several hundred dollars went into the scholarship fund from the sale of donated equipment. Special thanks to Gary, NI8Z, for procuring the tables and for getting there before dawn to set up the area; Bob, K8RGI, for bringing out the donated equipment he helped work on; and Bob, W8GC, for repairing and preparing the equipment for sale.

Public Service

There is one improvement we would really like to see in our club, more CARS members involved in public service. Our logo includes our motto, "Hams Who Serve." CARS used to be responsible for all the communications for the Diabetes Association spring bicycle race and fall walkathon. We did the event communications exclusively and had excellent participation from our membership. Those events deteriorated over that last few years and we are no longer involved. We do the Seven Hills Memorial Day Parade, and that is a feather in our cap for sure. One of our most dedicated public service participants, Eddie, KD8FTS, is disappointed that he is usually the only CARS member representing the club at local public service events. This is an opportunity for the club to improve and we will discuss it at upcoming meetings. Remember, we are the Amateur Radio Service.

73, Toby, WT8O

Odd Year Board Members

The following are the Odd Year Board of Directors members who are up for re-election at the November monthly meeting. Andy Evridge, KD8SCV, who is the current Board Chairman, Ed Stevens, WB8ROK and Arp Viiberg, K8ARP. Nominations will be at the October monthly meeting.

Welcome New Members

Jody Shankland

KE8JVA

Roy Baldner

KE8KOL

Linas Vaitkus

KE8KOJ



Gary, NI8Z; Bob, K8RGI; and Toby, WT8O, ready for action at the Cleveland Hamfest

Peep from the Veep Mark, WJ8WM

October 4

Not only is this our fearless leader's birthday, but it is also National CB Radio Day. Now I know as an Amateur Radio operator it is forbidden to speak of Citizen Band radio. However, because of the popularity of the hobby, in 1978 then President Jimmy Carter proclaimed October 4 (10-4) National CB Radio Day.

1978 was the 20th anniversary of the CB. What started as a low-cost low power short distance (mostly mobile simplex) communication method carved out of the 11-meter Amateur band soon became a hobby and then a culture. In its heyday there were more than 20 million users!

Most trucks and cars had a CB whether factory installed or aftermarket. CB radio became so large it spawned at least a dozen movies and songs. It was thoroughly engrained in our lives. Users made up names for themselves called handles and had their own slang language. They would meet up at restaurants around town for social interaction called "coffee breaks."

For a period of time, there was FCC licensing. You paid a fee but there was not a test. Because it grew so rapidly and so large, the FCC could not keep up and the licensing requirement was dropped.

Today the CB doesn't enjoy the same popularity as it did 40 years ago. It is still used by truckers and I see antennas on some homes in my travels. Never the less, and speaking as a Ham, I respect the influence it had on me and American culture. It provided an easy and affordable way of getting people On the Air, which isn't a bad thing!

Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society
September 11th 2018 Business Meeting Minutes

The CARS membership was called to order by President Toby Kolman, WT8O, at 7:35 PM on the 11th day of the month at the Busch Funeral Home Community room. The Pledge of Allegiance was said and introductions were made by the members and guests. The August 14th 2018 Business meeting minutes were approved as they appeared in the September 2018 *Wobbly Oscillator*.

Bob, W8GC, gave the report on the treasury balance.

Bob also stated that CARS is now associated with Smile.Amazon.com as a charitable organization. Amazon donates a portion of your purchase price back to the club with each purchase. There is a link on the CARS web page for further explanation.

Bob made a motion to increase the CARS scholarship amount from \$500 dollars to \$750 dollars. Mike, KD8OUE, provided the second. The motion will be voted on at the October meeting.

Roy Baldner, Linas Vaitkus and Jody Shankland, KE8JVA, were inducted into the club as NEW members this evening.

Toby, WT8O, reminded the group to please leave the parking spaces south of the building for people who need them. Toby also explained the member log-in and password. He asked for contributions to the WO.

The Cleveland Hamfest is September 23rd. The club will have a table for club promotion and another to sell items from.

Toby asked if someone could help Bill, KD8QBB, with the monthly club presentations. He needs ideas for October and November. If you have any ideas to revitalize the club then let Toby know.

The latest Board of Directors minutes are posted in the WO.

Mark, WJ8WM, reminded the group to pay your ARRL dues through the club. The club gets a portion of the renewal as well as a NEW membership.

Mark also mentioned that the FCC acts against rules infractions. Clubs make efforts to locate offenders as well. The FCC will find you.

Arp, K8ARP, mentioned that Public Service is about over for the season, however there is a 5K run on October 6th. See Cuyahoga County ARES for details. Toby would like to see the club take more interest in Public Service.

There is Skywarn training this fall. It will concern Winter preparedness. It will be hosted at the Red Cross downtown.

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Gary, NI8Z, mentioned that there were two individuals passing their Amateur Radio License tests at the VE session on September, 9th.

The next VE session will be November 11th at 9 AM in the old Elmwood Recreation Center adjacent to Elmwood Pond in Elmwood Park.

Gary has a new antenna in use and he thanked the crew who helped him remove the old one and install the new one.

Rt 66 is on the air from Chicago to Barstow, CA. The contest runs through September 16th.

There is also a railroad net hosted by the Cuyahoga Falls Radio Club, Friday nights at 7 PM on 147.27 MHz.

Toby thanked the Refreshment Committee for all their work.

Mark, WJ8WM, won the 50/50 raffle.

The October 9th business meeting will be a dinner meeting. It will be at Simon's Restaurant, 7770 Chippewa Rd. in Brecksville.

The next CARS license class will be February 28th, 2019.

The location is Seven Hills City Hall at 6:30 PM.

There were 30 members and guests in attendance this evening.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 PM.

The presentation this evening was a DVD on a DXpedition (FT5XO) to Kerguelen Island located in the Southern Indian Ocean.

Submitted by Larry Shimerka, N8OWS.

October Birthdays

Bob Evans, KSAAB	10/4/41
Toby Kolman, WT8O	10/4/48
Kirk Miller, WOKM	10/15/70
Tony Smith, KESIHP	10/17/51
Darren Turk, KSDMT	10/20/71
Jim Glor, N8GXR	10/22/49
Brian DeWitt, N8VTA	10/25/55

By-law Proposal

At the September meeting a motion was made and seconded to increase our annual scholarship award from \$500.00 to \$750.00 for each recipient. Since the dollar amount of the awards is stated in the club By-laws, the motion must continue to the next monthly meeting to be voted on. The October meeting agenda will include an item to vote on this proposal.

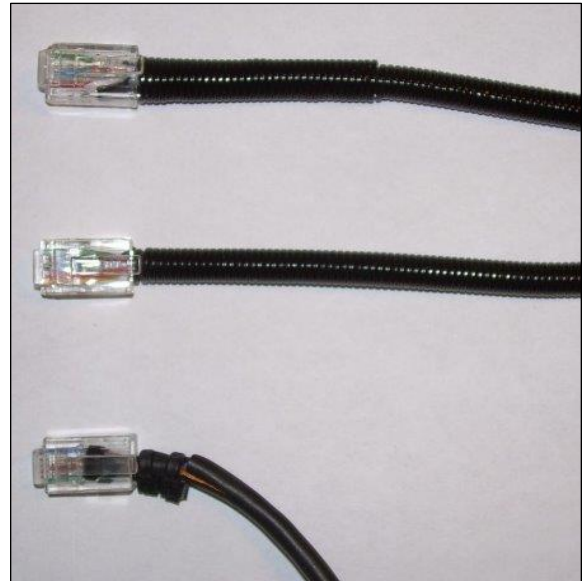
DIY Mic Cable Wrap

David, KD8ACO

Is your mobile mic cable stressed? Mobile mic cables which terminate in a modular connector tend to fail over time due to the lack of any strain relief by the modular connector. The bottom cable in the photo shows such a failed cable. Initially, the outer jacket on this cable began to fail. In an early attempt to relieve the stress on this cable, two wire ties were added to strengthen and “prop-up” the cable. As you can see, the outer jacket eventually failed further down the cable. Over time, the cable conductors themselves failed.

Using an inexpensive cable wrap sold online for protecting cell phone USB charging cables, additional support was successfully added to the replacement mic cable (see middle cable in the photo). This solution provides support to the cable, but still puts stress on the internal cable conductors. The top cable in the photo shows a subsequent solution which has proven to be very resilient. This solution uses a small paper clip, straightened and cut in half, as well as the cable wrap, in order to provide extra support, relieving the stress on the mic cable.

The two paper clip wires are installed on either side of the outside of the mic cable like a splint. One end of each wire is inserted partially into the modular connector straddling the mic cable’s entrance into the modular connector. This area of the modular connector does not pass through or touch the contact end of the connector. The cable wrap is then wound around both the mic cable and the two paper clip wires. Notice the “thicker” wrap near the modular connector on the top cable in the photo. The cable wrap appears to be larger for the length of the paper clip wires along the mic cable. Due to the stiffness of the paper clip wires, most of the strain on the cable and conductors is eliminated. This DIY tip costs less than a dollar and takes about five minutes to construct. Significantly less than the cost and time required to replace a failed mic cable.



Until next time, 73 de KD8ACO

VE Session

The CARS September VE session brought two new hams into the Amateur Radio Service. Linas Vaitkus, KE8KOJ, and Roy Baldner, KE8KOL, passed their Technician exams becoming licensed amateurs. We welcome Linas and Roy into the ham radio hobby and CARS. Hats off to our outstanding VE team, capably led by Metro, W8MET, and consisting of Gary, NI8Z; Dave, NF8O; Roger, N8TCP; George, K8KR; Darren, K8DMT; and Joel, K8SHB.

The next VE testing session will be held Sunday, November 11, at 9:00 AM at the Old Elmwood Recreation Center, 6200 Pete Wisniesky Parkway, Independence 44131. Directions and a map are on the CARS website homepage. For information or an appointment please contact Metro, W8MET, at 216-520-1320 or metro351@sbcglobal.net As always, walk-ins are welcome.

Obtaining a Printed Copy of an FCC License Terry, KB8DTC

[Editor's note: You must have a paper copy of your FCC Amateur License when renewing your Amateur Radio vanity automobile license plates.]

To Get an "Official Copy" of an Amateur License for the purpose of renewing an Amateur License Call vehicle license plate.

1. Got to the website: FCC.gov/uls
2. Click on the Log In at the heading "ONLINE FILING"
3. Enter your Federal Reference Number (FRN) AND Password in the appropriate boxes
4. Click on the heading "Download Electronic Authorizations"
5. Highlight "HV-<YOUR CALL>" then click on the "ADD" between the boxes (this SHOULD move the "HV-<YOUR CALL>" to the right side box) *
6. At the bottom of the right side box click on "SELECT ALL"
7. Click on the "Download" oval to either bring-up the PDF file (to print) or save the file to print later.

Note: You might have to "accept" or "show" the file (options for your browser to allow the file to be downloaded/shown)

**HV appeared as HA for KD8DTC. It may be different for different users, but still works the same.*

Member Profile Bob Mueller, K8MD

How did you become interested in ham radio?

United States Power Squadrons has (had?) an amateur radio club, and had a table set up at a meeting.
I was interested in HF on my boat.

What made you decide to take the test?

I found out the CW requirement had been dropped.

When did you get your license(s)?

February 25, 2014

What are your base station radios and antennas?

Icom 7300, Kenwood TM-V71A, Motorola CDM1550

What is your "go to" base station HF radio?

Icom 7300

October Net Shed

OCT	3	KD8ACO
OCT	10	WT8O
OCT	17	AC8NW
OCT	24	KD8OUE
OCT	31	NI8Z

Nets are run every Wednesday at
9:00 PM on 146.820 (PI 110.9)

(Continued next page)

What is your mobile set up?

Yaesu FT-8900, IC-7000

What are your favorite on air activities?

Ohio State Parks On-the-Air, Winter Field Day, and any other Portable HF contesting opportunities.

Why did you join CARS?

Seems like a good club, disappointed in some other clubs in the area.

What would you like to see CARS do to improve?

More member participation and be involved in more activities. Need to attract younger members, I wish I knew how to do that.

Honorary Members

Any person who by nature of outstanding or meritorious contribution to the furtherance of amateur radio and the ideals of the Cuyahoga Amateur Radio Society

Robert Check, W8GC

Elected 2/10/15

Thomas Wayne, WB8N

Elected 1/10/17

Dwaine Modock, K8ME, SK

Elected 5/9/17

Toby Kolman, WT8O

Elected 10/10/17

Jerry Smith, NW9H

Elected 5/8/18



Get your Technician, General or Extra class license!

Thursday evenings starting February 28, 2019 and ending April 11, 2019 at 6:30 pm. April 11th will be a special VE Test session for all license classes. The ARRL fee for this VE test is \$15.00.

To register, please follow the link at www.2cars.org and complete the on-line application. Classes will be held at the Seven Hills City Hall, 7325 Summit View Drive, Seven Hills, OH 44131 at 6:30 pm every Thursday.

Class Fees: Technician class \$25.00, all who pass get a free CARS membership for 2019. General and Extra classes \$20.00 non-members. Extra class \$15.00 for CARS members. All class materials are provided.

Marketplace

Ameritron AL-82 Amplifier. 1500w 2x3-500z
Finals checked out and making rated power output.

\$1500 Local pickup only k8yse@arrl.net

Gap Challenger with tilt base-new cost \$389.00. Good condition
Asking **\$100.00**

Cushcraft R-8 new cost \$539. Has all parts & tilt base. Asking **\$150. 00**

This Heil Sound lightweight, versatile boom mic/headset designed for comfort, durability, and, above all, performance. The earpieces are full sized, with heavily-stuffed cushions for operator comfort during long operating stints. The ear pad covers are removable, for washing, and replacement pads are also available. Comes with a AD-1-Y8 Yaesu adapter cable (\$22.00) The cheapest new headset is listed at \$134.00 - this is a \$156.00 value for only **\$60.00**.



Call or email Bob, W8GC. 216-524-1750 bob@2cls.com

Yeasu VX-5R \$100

Gain antenna - Speaker Mic - VOX headset - Original box and manual

Contact Toby, WT8O. 440-525-6109 wt8o@att.net

Radiosport

Contests

Oct 10 0001-2359 **10-10 International 10-10 Day Sprint** 28 MHz CW Ph Dig www.ten-ten.org
Oct 15 1300-Oct 19 2359 **ARRL School Club Roundup** All Bands CW Ph arrl.org/school-club-roundup
Oct 27 0000 - Oct 28 2359 **CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB** 1.8-28 Ph www.cqww.com

Special Events Stations

Oct 4 1700-Oct 7 1700 **W2V / W2VL / WV2KI** Levittown, NY **110th Anniversary of the Vanderbilt Motor Parkway- New York State Historic Plaque Dedication*** 21.340 14.240 7.240 www.limarc.org
Oct 6 - Oct 7 1300-2100 **W1W** Cornwall Bridge, CT **Warren Fall Festival*** 14.225 www.na1ra.org
Oct 15 – Oct 21 0500-2359 **W9C** Orland Park, IL **Illinois Bicentennial Celebration***
14.280, 14.050, 7.280, 7.050 www.metrodxclub.com
Oct 27 1700 – 2300 **K7T** Tombstone, AZ **Shootout at the OK Corral*** CW 7.040, 14.040; PSK 7.070, 14.070; FT8 7.074, 14.074; SSB 7.200, 14.250 www.tucsonhamradio.org

***Certificate available**

State QSO Parties

Oct 6 1600 - Oct 7 2200 **California QSO Party** 1.8-28 CW Ph www.cqp.org
Oct 13 0300 – Oct 14 2100 **Nevada QSO Party** 1.8-UHF CW Ph Dig nvqso.com
Oct 13 1600 – Oct 14 2200 **Pennsylvania QSO Party** 1.8-144 Ph Dig paqso.org
Oct 13 1700 – Oct 14 0500 **Arizona QSO Party** 1.8-144 CW Ph Dig www.azqsoparty.org
Oct 13 1800 – Oct 14 1800 **South Dakota QSO Party** 1.8-144 CW Ph Dig www.sdqsoparty.com
Oct 20 1400 – Oct 21 0200 **New York QSO Party** All Bands CW Ph Dig www.nyqp.org
Oct 21 1700 – Oct 22 0100 **Illinois QSO Party** 1.8-144 Ph www.w9awe.org/ILQP.html

Info from QST October 2018 Pg. 91, 99 and 100 - All times in GMT ZULU time

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2019 CARS License Class Schedule

Orientation and all classes **Thursdays at 6:30 PM**
at the Seven Hills City Hall Community Room

February 28.....Orientation and Registration

March 7..... Test Lesson 1

March 14..... Test Lesson 2

March 21..... Test Lesson 3

March 28..... Test Lesson 4

April 4..... Test Lesson 5 (Extra Class Only)

April 11..... VE Exam Session

**Must bring Photo ID, copy of FCC License (if applicable)
and \$15 check payable to the ARRL to the VE exam.**

- Community Room Reserved (6:00 – 8:00 PM) -